DETAILED ACTION

1.   This action is responsive to Applicant's arguments filed 12/03/2010 and the interview on

01/06/2011.

Claims 1, 6-8, 10-17, 20, 25-27, 29-34, 39-41, 43-51, 56-58, 60-66, 71-73, and 75-87 are

pending in the application. Claims 1, 6-8, 10-17, 20, 25-27, 29-34, 39-41, 43-51, 56-58,

60-66, 71-73, and 75-87 have been examined and allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37

CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no

later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

With Jonathan O. Owens (Reg. No. 37,902) on 01/06/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A network of devices to filter synchronized data, the network of devices comprising:

a.   a content server to store content;

b.   a first network device; [[and]]

c.   a second network device; and

[[c.]] d.   a middleware filter included within the second network device, the second network device coupled to the first network device and to the content server

such that during a data synchronization, content is received by the middleware filter from the content server according to the data synchronization and the middleware filter is programmed to selectively filter the content resulting in filtered content and send only the filtered content to the first network device, wherein the middleware filter selectively filters the content in response to meta data within the content, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of the content,

    wherein the middleware filter reads the meta data of the content received from the content server and sends the content to the first network device if the data type of the read meta data matches an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

    wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network device, and

wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

2. -5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The network of devices of claim 1 wherein the meta data

includes an authorized network device type.

7. (Original) The network of devices of claim 6 wherein the middleware filter reads the

meta data of the content received from the content server and sends the content to the first

network device if the authorized network device type of the read meta data matches a

network device type associated with the first network device.

8. (Original) The network of devices of claim 7 wherein the middleware filter stores the

network device type of the first network device.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The network of devices of claim 1 wherein the meta data

includes data synchronization information corresponding to the data synchronization.

11. (Original) The network of devices of claim 10 further comprising a display coupled

to the middleware filter to display the data synchronization information.

12. (Original) The network of devices of claim 1 wherein the data synchronization is a one-way data synchronization.

13. (Original) The network of devices of claim 1 wherein the data synchronization is a bi-directional data synchronization.

14. (Currently Amended) The network of devices of claim 1 ~~wherein the middleware filter is within a second network device and further~~ wherein the second network device comprises a personal computer.

15. (Original) The network of devices of claim 1 wherein the first network device comprises a personal digital assistant.

16. (Original) The network of devices of claim 1 wherein the content server comprises a web server.

17. (Currently Amended) The network of devices of claim 1 ~~wherein the middleware filter is within a second network device and further~~ wherein the second network device comprises a server.

18. -19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A network of devices to filter synchronized data, the network

of devices comprising:

a.   a content server to store content;

b.   a personal digital assistant; and

c.   a personal computer coupled to the personal digital assistant and to the content

server, wherein the personal computer includes a middleware filter programmed such that

during a data synchronization, content received by the personal computer from the

content server according to the data synchronization is selectively filtered according to

the middleware filter, resulting in filtered content, wherein only the filtered content is

sent to the personal digital assistant by the personal computer, wherein the middleware

filter selectively filters the content in response to meta data within the content, wherein

the meta data comprises a data type of the content,

        wherein the personal computer reads the meta data of the content received from

the content server and sends the content to the personal digital assistant if the data type of

the read meta data matches an authorized data type associated with the personal digital

assistant,

        wherein the personal computer stores the authorized data type of the personal

digital assistant, and

        wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

21.-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The network of devices of claim 20 wherein the meta data
includes an authorized network device type.

26. (Original) The network of devices of claim 25 wherein the personal computer reads
the meta data of the content received from the content server and sends the content to the
personal digital assistant if the authorized network device type of the read meta data
matches a network device type associated with the personal digital assistant.

27. (Original) The network of devices of claim 26 wherein the personal computer stores
the network device type of the personal digital assistant.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The network of devices of claim 20 wherein the meta data
includes data synchronization information corresponding to the data synchronization.

30. (Original) The network of devices of claim 29 wherein the personal computer
displays the data synchronization information.

31. (Original) The network of devices of claim 20 wherein the data synchronization is a one-way data synchronization.

32. (Original) The network of devices of claim 20 wherein the data synchronization is a bi-directional data synchronization.

33. (Original) The network of devices of claim 20 wherein the content server comprises a web server.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering synchronized data, the method comprising:

a.   determining content to be sent from a content server to a first network device during a data synchronization;

b.   sending the content from the content server to a second network device coupled between the content server and the first network device, wherein the second network device includes a middleware filter;

c.   selectively filtering the content according to the middleware filter in response to meta data contained within the content, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of the content; and

d.   sending only the filtered content from the second network device to the first network device,

wherein selectively filtering the content includes reading the meta data of the

content received from the content server by the middleware filter, matching the data type

of the read meta data to an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

and sending the content to the first network device if the data type of the read meta data

matches the authorized data type associated with the first network device,

wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network

device, and

wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

35. -38. (canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the meta data includes an

authorized network device type.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39 wherein selectively filtering the content includes

reading the meta data of the content received from the content server by the middleware

filter, matching the authorized network device type of the read meta data to a network

device type associated with the first network device, and sending the content to the first

network device if the authorized network device type of the read meta data matches the

network device type associated with the first network device.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40 wherein the middleware filter stores the network

device type of the first network device.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the meta data includes

data synchronization information corresponding to the data synchronization.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43 further comprising displaying the data

synchronization information.

45. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the data synchronization is a one-way

data synchronization.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the data synchronization is a

bi-directional data synchronization.

47. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the second network device comprises a

personal computer.

48. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the first network device comprises a

personal digital assistant.

49. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the content server comprises a web

server.

50. (Original) The method of claim 34 wherein the second network device comprises a

server.

51. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering synchronized data, the method

comprising:

a.   determining content to be sent from a content server to a first network device

during a data synchronization, wherein the content server includes a middleware filter;

b.   selectively filtering the determined content according to the middleware filter in

response to meta data contained within the content, wherein the meta data comprises a

data type of the content; and

c.   sending only the filtered content from the content server to the first network

device,

        wherein selectively filtering the determined content includes reading the meta

data of the determined content by the middleware filter, matching the data type of the

read meta data to an authorized data type associated with the first network device, and

sending the determined content to the first network device if the data type of the read

meta data matches the authorized data type associated with the first network device,

        wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network

device, and

wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

52. -55. (Canceled)

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the meta data includes an

authorized network device type.

57. (Original) The method of claim 56 wherein selectively filtering the determined

content includes reading the meta data of the determined content by the middleware filter,

matching the authorized network device type of the read meta data to a network device

type associated with the first network device, and sending the determined content to the

first network device if the authorized network device type of the read meta data matches

the network device type associated with the first network device.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57 wherein the middleware filter stores the network

device type of the first network device.

59. (Canceled)

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the meta data includes

data synchronization information corresponding to the data synchronization.

61. (Original) The method of claim 60 further comprising displaying the data

synchronization information.

62. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the data synchronization is a one-way

data synchronization.

63. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the data synchronization is a bi-

directional data synchronization.

64. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the first network device comprises a

personal digital assistant.

65. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the content server comprises a web

server.

66. (Currently Amended) An apparatus including at least one processor to filter

synchronized data, wherein the apparatus includes comprising:

 a middleware filter programmed such that during a data synchronization, content

is received by the apparatus from a content server according to the data synchronization,

and the received content is selectively sent to a network device by the apparatus

according to the middleware filter, wherein the received content is selectively filtered by

the middleware filter and wherein only the filtered content is sent to the network device

in response to meta data within the ~~selected~~ received content, wherein the meta data

comprises a data type of the received content,

wherein the middleware filter reads the meta data of the content received from the

content server and sends the content to the network device if the data type of the read

meta data matches an authorized data type associated with the network device,

wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the network

device, and

wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

67. -70. (Canceled)

71. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the meta data includes an

authorized network device type.

72. (Original) The apparatus of claim 71 wherein the middleware filter reads the meta

data of the content received from the content server and sends the content to the network

device if the authorized network device type of the read meta data matches a network

device type associated with the network device.

73. (Original) The apparatus of claim 72 wherein the middleware filter stores the

network device type of the network device.

74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the meta data includes
data synchronization information corresponding to the data synchronization.

76. (Original) The apparatus of claim 75 further comprising a display to display the data
synchronization information.

77. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the data synchronization is a one-way
data synchronization.

78. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the data synchronization is a bi-
directional data synchronization.

79. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the apparatus comprises a personal
computer.

80. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the network device comprises a
personal digital assistant.

81. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the content server comprises a web

server.

82. (Original) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the apparatus comprises a server.

83. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for filtering synchronized data comprising:

a.   means for determining content to be sent from a content server to a first network

device during a data synchronization;

b.   means for sending the content from the content server to a second network device

coupled between the content server and the first network device, wherein the second

network device includes a middleware filter;

c.   means for selectively filtering the content in response to meta data contained

within the content, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of the content; and

d.   means for sending only the filtered content from the second network device to the

first network device,

         wherein selectively filtering the content includes reading the meta data of the

content received from the content server by the middleware filter, matching the data type

of the read meta data to an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

and sending the content to the first network device if the data type of the read meta data

matches the authorized data type associated with the first network device,

wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network device,

and

wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

84. (Currently Amended) A network of devices to filter synchronized data, the network

of devices comprising:

a.   a content server to store content;

b.   a first network device, wherein a communications channel is established for

communicating content from the content server to the first network device; and

c.   a middleware filter coupled to the first network device and to the content server

such that during a data synchronization, all content sent over the communications

 channel from the content server is received by the middleware filter according to

 the data synchronization and the middleware filter is programmed to selectively

 filter the content in response to meta data containing device specifications within

 the content resulting in filtered content and send only the filtered content to the

 first network device, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of the content,

          wherein the middleware filter reads the meta data of the content received from the

content server and sends the content to the first network device if the data type of the read

meta data matches an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

          wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network

device, and

          wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

85. (Currently Amended) A network of devices to filter synchronized data, the network

of devices comprising:

a.   a content server to store content;

b.   a first network device; and

c.   a second network device coupled between the first network device and the content

server, the second network device comprising a middleware filter, such that during a data

synchronization, content is received by the middleware filter from the content server

according to the data synchronization and the middleware filter is programmed to

selectively filter the content in response to meta data within the content, the metadata

comprising an attribute-value pair, resulting in filtered content and send only the filtered

content to the first network device, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of the

content, and further wherein the first network device and the second network device are

local and the content server is remote from the first network device and the second

network device,

        wherein the middleware filter reads the meta data of the content received from the

content server and sends the content to the first network device if the data type of the read

meta data matches an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network device,

and

        wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

86. (Currently Amended) A method of filtering synchronized data, the method

comprising:

a.   determining content to be sent from a content server to a first network device

during a bi-directional data synchronization;

b.   sending the content from the content server to a second network device coupled

between the content server and the first network device, wherein the second network

device includes a middleware filter;

c.   selectively filtering the content according to the middleware filter in response to

meta data contained within the content, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of

the content; and

d.   sending only the filtered content from the second network device to the first

network device,

        wherein selectively filtering the content includes reading the meta data of the

content received from the content server by the middleware filter, matching the data type

of the read meta data to an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

and sending the content to the first network device if the data type of the read meta data

matches the authorized data type associated with the first network device,

        wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network

device, and

        wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

87. (Currently Amended) A network of devices to filter synchronized data, the network

of devices comprising:

a.   a content server to store content;

b.   a first network device; and

c.   a middleware filter coupled to the first network device and to the content server

such that during a bi-directional data synchronization, content is received by the

middleware filter from the content server according to the bi-directional data

synchronization and the middleware filter is programmed to selectively filter the

content resulting in filtered content and send only the filtered content to the first

network device, wherein the middleware filter selectively filters the content in response

to meta data within the content, wherein the meta data comprises a data type of the

content,

        wherein the middleware filter reads the meta data of the content received from the

content server and sends the content to the first network device if the data type of the read

meta data matches an authorized data type associated with the first network device,

        wherein the middleware filter stores the authorized data type of the first network

device, and

wherein the meta data is added to the content by the content server.

Reasons For Allowance

2.   Claims 1, 6-8, 10-17, 20, 25-27, 29-34, 39-41, 43-51, 56-58, 60-66, 71-73, and 75-87 are

allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- Claim 83 meets the three prong analysis and are presumed to invoke 35 U.S.C.

  112, sixth paragraph. Therefore, claim 83 is not software per se.

- Interpreting the claims in light of the specification, Examiner finds the claimed

  invention is patentably distinct from the prior art of record. The prior art does not

  expressly teach or render obvious the invention as recited in amended

  independent Claims 1, 20, 34, 51, 66, and 83-87. The dependent claims are

  allowed as they depend upon allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than

the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments

on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

3.   Any inquiry or a general nature or relating to the status of this application should
         be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

         Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
         examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)
         272-3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM-
         6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday. If attempts to reach the
         examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, EMERSON
         PUENTE can be reached at (571) 272-3652.

         The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is
         assigned is (571) 273-8300.

         Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent
         Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published
         applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status
         information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For
         more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you
         have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business
         Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO
         Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call
         800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

         /VAN H NGUYEN/
         Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2194